Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota

Office of the Governor

Whereas, Joseph Kirley was born on June 15, 1924, in Pierre, South Dakota, and has lived his entire life in this fine community; and,

Whereas, Birthdays commemorate the first day of our lives, and we celebrate the birthdays of those we love as we recognize the joys and sorrows we have shared, the strength we have gained from the obstacles and hardships we have conquered, and the small daily pleasures life offers; and,

Whereas, Joe is the proud father of six children and spent a lifetime working career with the J.C. Penney Company in Pierre; and,

Whereas, Joe's one extended absence from the Pierre community was his service as a World War II veteran, at which time he fought at the Battle of the Bulge; and,

Whereas, Joe was one of the founders of the Pierre Boys and Girls Club, serving on the board from 1957 to 1996, and is a member of the American Legion and active supporter of its baseball program; and,

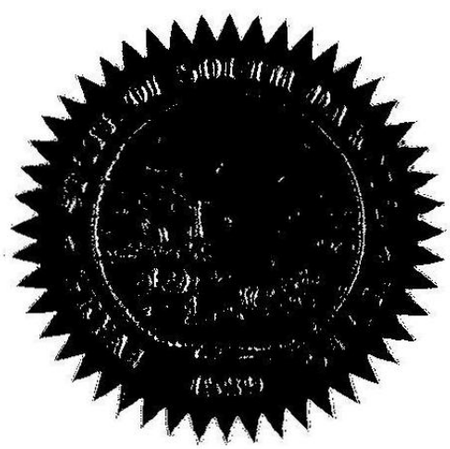
Whereas, Joe's most important and valuable function in the city of Pierre, since his retirement, has been his faithful Monday and Friday morning involvement in the Ramkota Coffee Group where major decisions are made and opinions shared that affect the lives of hundreds of area residents; and,

Whereas, Joe will observe his 80th Birthday with all the good wishes, fanfare, and celebration such a milestone warrants, as his family gathers on the 4th of July to honor him and celebrate his life and the camaraderie of the day; and it is fitting and proper for the Governor to make note of this milestone in the life of a man who has lived an exemplary life for all to emulate:

Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim June 15, 2004, as

JOSEPH KIRLEY DAY

in South Dakota, and I join all his many friends and relatives in wishing him a very happy birthday, good health, and great happiness.



In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Twenty-fifth Day of June in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Four.

M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:

Chris Nelson, Secretary of State